

## THE ELBERTA PEACH.

**T**HIS is the first season that large orchards of Elberta have fruited around Rochester. Fruit growers here are wildly enthusiastic over this remarkable variety. The peach is extraordinarily large in size. The size of Elberta surprised everyone. It has not been proclaimed to be extraordinarily large, but it is far the largest peach marketed at Rochester this year. Even on the trees that received no cultivation whatever the fruit of Elberta was large and finely colored, golden-yellow skin covered with a bright crimson blush. There seems to be few, if any, cull peaches upon trees of Elberta. The fruit is uniformly large and handsome.

A remarkable peculiarity of Elberta is that the fruit can be picked long before maturity, and it will ripen up nicely, without rotting. I have yet to see the first rotten peach upon an Elberta tree. It is undoubtedly the best of all the peaches for long shipment. The Elberta is rather a longish peach, not so round as Crawford. Otherwise it might be mistaken for a Crawford. I do not think in quality it quite equals the

Crawford, but the quality is acceptable and good. The flesh is yellow and juicy, and it is a free-stone. The tree is a vigorous and upright grower, exceedingly hardy in bud; hardier than Mountain Rose, Stump or Oldmixon.

A peach grower near this city had several acres of Elberta in bearing. Most of the noted Pomologists of Western New York visited this orchard and were amazed at the quantity, beauty, and size of Elberta, which this orchardist was selling at double the price of ordinary peaches. This peach grower says he will set 12,000 trees of Elberta next year.

I take considerable pride in the success of the Elberta peach since I was among the first to call attention of fruit growers to this remarkable variety. Several years ago I visited with J. H. Hales the orchards of Samuel Rump, in Georgia, which is the home of the Elberta peach. There I saw the original Elberta tree. It was one of thousands of seedlings, and the only seedling out of the thousands that was considered of value. All the others were cut away and burned, this alone left to stand.—Green's Fruit Grower.

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## THE BURBANK PLUM.

**T**HE Burbank plum is again bearing a large crop of fruit this season as it did last.

This variety of the plum has a habit, as far as my experience goes, of setting four times as much fruit as the tree ought to ripen. Five-year-old trees on light sandy soil well fertilized, have borne crops for three seasons, and each season there were so many upon the tree that to have fine fruit thinning was necessary.

The Burbank is quite different from

some other varieties of plums; they hang to the tree and do not drop—so that a tree of this variety will carry to maturity a great number of plums, but if not thinned out very heavily the fruit will not be large.

This season I have seen the difference in thinning and not thinning in a marked degree. Some trees were thinned early, and in a week the plums were a third larger on these trees than others which had not yet been thinned.—The Central States Fruit Grower, St. Joseph, Mich.